

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

In the specification, paragraphs have been amended on pages 1 and 2.

New claims 13-20 have been added.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-20 are now pending in this application.

Objections to the Specification

The specification is objected to for containing informalities. The specification has been amended to overcome these objections. Reconsideration and withdrawal of these objections is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Amendments have been made where appropriate. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-4, 6, and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. 5,472,229 to Bishop *et al.* (hereafter “Bishop”). Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,318,754 to Einsiedel *et al.* (hereafter “Einsiedel”). Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,152,484 to Fischer *et al.* (hereafter “Fischer”). Claims 1-9 are rejected

under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,152,484 to Fischer *et al.* (hereafter “Fischer”).

Bishop discloses an airbag that includes an inflator 10, a housing 20, and a plug 60 that is inserted into an exit port 16a of the inflator. See Bishop at col. 2, line 28, to col. 3, line 57.

Einsiedel discloses an airbag apparatus that includes a gas generator 11, a one-sided housing 13, a holder clamp 22, and a tension band 17. See Einsiedel at col. 2, lines 1-32.

Fischer discloses a gas generator 1 and a seal 17 that includes projections 19 that engage into gas outlet openings 3 of the gas generator 1. See Fischer at col. 2, line 21, to col. 3, line 3. Fischer does not disclose or suggest that the projections 19 engage with the gas generator 1 to create a gap between the gas generator 1 and the seal 17, as recited in claim 1.

However, Bishop, Einsiedel, and Fischer do not disclose “a module housing having at least one closure element in a region of each opening of the gas generator to be closed, wherein the module housing includes at least one portion arranged on an interior of the module housing that is configured to engage the gas generator to create a gap between the gas generator and the module housing,” as recited in claim 1.

A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). See generally M.P.E.P. § 2131.

Bishop, Einsiedel, and Fischer do not disclose that the housing 20 includes at least one portion arranged on the interior of the housing 20 that engages the inflator 10 to create a gap between the inflator 10 and the housing 20. Therefore, Bishop, Einsiedel, and Fischer do not anticipate claim 1. Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested for at least the reasons discussed above.

Claims 2-12 depend from claim 1 and are allowable over the prior art for at least the reasons discussed above and for their respective additional recitations.